



**AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT
(ADA) ADVISORY COUNCIL
OCTOBER 15, 2004
MEETING MINUTES**

MEMBERS: Marilyn Jost, Pat Sigala, Jan Carmichael, Robin Holleman, Crystal Hopkins, Joe Tarro, Shirley Garrett, Mary Beth Randall, Vicki Benson, John Ramirez.

CITY STAFF: Jon Elam, Stella DuBois, Emily Sanchez of the Public Works Department

GUESTS: Garrett Ware, w/G7 Medical Services, Inc., James Oakes, Architect

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 1:03 p.m.

Vice-Chair Marilyn Jost chaired the meeting. Self introductions were made. September Meeting Minutes were adopted.

Member Items Not on Agenda

- Mary Beth Randall - stated she was very happy with the work that was done at the intersection of Cedar and Shields. The curb cuts are much better than before.
- Jan Carmichael - stated it would be helpful if Public Works would notify FAX in advance when construction will cause a bus route to be detoured. More lead time is needed when FAX buses are re-routed.

City Council Workshop Update

Jon Elam reported that the workshop was well-received. It appeared there was a lack of response from some Councilmembers. An annual workshop was suggested in order to keep the City Council aware of what the ADA Advisory Council is doing. Stella DuBois assembled a picture poster montage of meetings, activities, events and accomplishments which the ADA Advisory Council brought to fruition. It was strongly suggested the picture montage be displayed on the second floor of City Hall making it available for viewing by City Council Members. A power point presentation was suggested for next year.

Housing Coalition Update

A handout was distributed regarding the Housing meeting on October 29th. The meeting is to discuss accessible and affordable housing for the disabled. Reservations are needed. Call Jose Luis Barraza or Jimmie Soto for reservations.

Disability Awareness Day (DAD) Program Report

Marilyn Jost visited the DAD booth at the fair. Overall the DAD went well. There will be a "debriefing" on November 3rd at 10:00 a.m. in City Hall, Conference Room 4017N. Please call Jose Luis Barraza at 276-6777 with input on the DAD booth. Bring any questions/comments to the meeting.

Miscellaneous Reports

Curb Cut/Ramps

Jon Elam reported the curb cut crews have completed work for Fall 2004 and will start again in Spring 2005. The Street Maintenance Division will provide a list of completed curbs. Joe Tarro expressed concern about a ramp on "P" Street near Ventura being too steep. Discussion ensued.

ADA Hotline Report

Jon Elam reported there are many calls received which do not relate to ADA. Approximately 15 calls were received in September. Jon responded to those calls and the ADA Advisory Council commended him for his work.

Transition Plan Update

Jon Elam is in the process of recruiting someone to help with the ADA workload. Claudine Randazzo, who previously served as an intern will be returning to work with the ADA Advisory Council for a short time.

Resolution Approved

Jon Elam reported the City Council adopted the Resolution to request the City's State Legislature to encourage the Department of Motor Vehicle to include language in the driver's test that would make motorists aware of the need to drive more cautiously near visually impaired pedestrians. Letters have been mailed to legislators.

Non-discrimination Policy

Jon Elam reported that the City's non-discrimination policy has been upgraded to come into compliance with the law. The City Attorney's office is reviewing the City Code to do the same. Money has been funded to complete evaluation of all buildings. A need exists to coordinate with the Facilities Division and will develop a Request For Proposal (RFP). Discussion followed.

Joe Tarro brought to the ADA Council's attention a trip and fall hazard at the Big Fresno Fair. Jon Elam indicated the Fair is under the State's jurisdiction, but if our office is made aware of the location of a hazard we can notify the Fair's General Manager. Marilyn Jost stated that it would behoove the ADA Advisory Council to go through the fairgrounds when the crowds are not there to determine problem areas. Discussion followed.

Member Reports

Marilyn Jost indicated the ADA website needs to be updated. Jon Elam suggested that it could also include a summary of the ADA Advisory Council's activities, goals, and successes. Marilyn would like to have information that would educate the public about Titles I, II, III, IV and V, added to the website. Jon Elam suggested making this information available through links. Discussion followed.

Membership

- ▶ Marilyn Jost indicated she would like to see the ADA Advisory Council membership increase. Mr. Garrett Ware of G7 Medical Services, Inc., stated he has considerable contact with various agencies and is willing to distribute copies of the brochure to make them aware of the ADA Advisory Council's existence. Brochures were distributed. Discussion followed regarding ways to increase membership. Such as:

- ▶ Have vendors post notices of upcoming ADA events
- ▶ Place meeting notices in the newspaper
- ▶ Place notices on FAX buses
- ▶ Hold a one-day forum for Department Directors explaining the ADA program
- ▶ Have ADA meetings focus on a particular subject instead of so broad a subject matter..

Audio Pedestrian Signals

Mary Beth Randall inquired on the status of Audio Pedestrian Signals (APS). Jon Elam suggested this item be placed on the next agenda. Lisa Wallis would be invited to address the subject.

Roundabout at River Park

Marilyn Jost stated that changes may be coming to the roundabout at River Park. There is a possibility that Ed Kashian may redesign the area. Discussion followed.

Adjournment

Motion was made to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at approximately 2:40 p.m. The next meeting of the ADA Advisory Council is scheduled for Friday, December 3, 2004.

There is no meeting in November.